



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held February 17, 2009, the Board took the following action:

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The following was called up for consideration:

The Director of Public Health's recommendation to approve and authorize the Director of Public Health to accept and execute a standard agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in amount not to exceed \$9,000,000, for three one-year periods to support the Department's Public Health Laboratory (PHL) Viral Load Testing (VLT) Program, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011; adopt resolution, as required by CDPH, to accept the standard agreement to support the PHL VLT program; approve appropriation adjustment in amount of \$559,000 to reflect grant funding to support the Department's VLT Program for Fiscal Year 2008-09; and authorize the Director to:

Execute amendments and/or supplements to the standard agreement that rollover unspent funds and/or increase or decrease funding up to 25% of each fiscal year's total award for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011; and

Fill seven full-time equivalent positions consisting of one Clinical Microbiologist II, two Public Health Microbiologist I positions, one Senior Laboratory Assistant, and three Laboratory Assistants in excess of what is provided in the Department's staffing ordinance and subject to allocation, 100% offset by CDPH funds.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

"Given the fact that the State is deferring some of its payments to the County to an unknown time, I want the Chief Executive Officer to review hiring on State grant funded positions."

Therefore, Supervisor Knabe made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, that the Chief Executive Officer be directed to report back to the Board in one week with recommendations on hiring for State grant funded positions.

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Ridley-Thomas:

“The global financial crisis is having profound effects on the local economy and is affecting all residents of the County. As the County intends to participate fully in Federal and State ‘stimulus’ programs to create well-paying jobs and public infrastructure of long-term value, it is imperative to place ‘stimulus’ funds into use as quickly and cost-effectively as possible without compromising environmental values.”

Therefore, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, that the Board took the following actions:

1. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Public Works and any other departments, commissions and agencies deemed appropriate by the Chief Executive Officer to prepare the following:
 - Recommendations for “streamlining” the public procurement, contracting and contract approval processes on an emergency and temporary basis, in order to begin “stimulus” projects as quickly as possible and to facilitate the translation of “stimulus” funds into well-paying local jobs; and
 - Recommendations for special initiatives to ensure that “stimulus” benefits are distributed in fair and appropriate allocations through the County; and
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer, County Counsel and Director of Public Works to report back to the Board in 30 days with draft recommendations in these regards.

William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer, responded to questions posed by the Board and suggested that the reports and recommendations requested by Supervisors Knabe and Ridley-Thomas, be combined into one report. Further, the Chief Executive Officer requested that Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s motion approved during the discussion of Agenda Item No. S-1, February 17, 2009, directing the Chief Executive Officer to: 1) establish an interdepartmental task force, led by the Chief Executive Officer, to manage and execute the expenditure of the Federal Stimulus Package funds that the County will receive; and 2) establish a project management team that will be responsible for ensuring that the stimulus funds will be expended in a timely manner, also be included within the requested report. Further, the Chief Executive Officer suggested the combined report come back to the Board in two weeks.

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After further discussion, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted the Director of Public Health's attached recommendation; and
2. Directed the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Director of Public Works and any other department, commission, or agency deemed appropriate, and report back to the Board in two weeks on:
 - Hiring for State grant funded positions;
 - Recommendations for "streamlining" the public procurement, contracting and contract approval processes on an emergency and temporary basis, in order to begin "stimulus" projects as quickly as possible and to facilitate the transition of "stimulus" funds into well-paying local jobs;
 - Recommendations for special initiatives to ensure that "stimulus" benefits are distributed in fair and appropriate allocations through the County;
 - The establishment of an interdepartmental task force to manage and execute the expenditure of the Federal Stimulus Package funds that the County will receive; and
 - The establishment of a project management team that will be responsible for ensuring that the stimulus funds will be expended in a timely manner.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Director of Public Works
Director of Public Health